

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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REGION II

Accuracy of Region II Removal Action Memorandum

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339774



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The Region II total removal action ceiling for the Duane Marine Project was \$1,144,000, as compared to the Headquarters (ERD memo of February 26, 1985) estimate of \$1,008,413. Headquarters infers that Region II made a mathematical error in its calculation of the project costs. However, the Region II estimate was based on a TAT support/activities cost estimate of \$50,000 and a 15 percent overall contingency line item of \$142,637. Headquarters in their calculation of the project cost used \$57,500 for TAT costs (reason - unknown), and had no overall 15 percent contingency line item. The 15 percent contingency line item has been recommended to us by Headquarters personnel in the past and is suggested in guidance contained in the EPA 1985 Removal Cost Management Manual.

The difference between the Region II and Headquarters project estimates is \$135,137. The above accounts for the \$135,137 difference in estimates. While mathematical errors in the Quanta action memo did occur, those cited for Duane Marine appear to be Headquarters generated. Our OSC's have been cautioned about such errors, but it should be clear that Duane Marine was not a Region II error.

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FILE: Duane Marine, NJ

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